

Minutes: Leesburg Tree Commission October 20, 2003

The Leesburg Tree Commission met on Monday, October 20, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room at 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, VA. Staff present for the meeting was Jay Banks.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairman Wolf
Commissioner Goolsby
Commissioner Pritchard
Commissioner Hower
Commissioner Perry
Commissioner Bessa
Councilman Schmidt

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Goolsby made a motion to approve the minute of September 15, 2003 as amended.

Motion: Goolsby
Second: Pritchard
Carried: 6-0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Paula Greenberg introduced her daughter Rachel who was there as part of a Social Studies project. Ms. Greenberg stated she was attending the meeting as a citizen who lives on Lawson Road and wanted to talk about the Turner Wilson project and ask the Tree Commission if they would help in dealing with the developer with a few issues in regards to protect and save some of the trees.

Chairman Wolf stated he would write a letter to the Planning Commission regarding the issue of the trees and that he would also try to attend the Planning Commission meeting.

Ms. Katie Hammler with the Economic Development Commission spoke to the Tree Commission regarding a business strategy that they have implemented and wanted to share there visions and goals for one critical reason because they would like to align with all the different Commissions to make sure everyone is working smartly and closely together. Ms. Katie Hammler talked about the Economic Developments mission statement.

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OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Banks gave an update on the Tree Inventory and also talked about the budget for 2004.

Commissioner Perry talked about the Plant a Tree for Me project.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Banks gave a power point presentation from the Research Institute for Urban Forest for the Commission to use as it sees fit regarding tree planting and the affect they have on the community. Mr. Banks handed out copies of what went to the Planning Commission regarding the results from the Environmental visioning session for the Town Plan.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Banks thanked the Town for letting him go to San Antonio. Mr. Banks stated there is 4 Chinese Elms in front of Hampton Inn and today we received 10 additional trees that will be planted there. Mr. Banks reminded Commissioner Wolf, Commissioner Goolsby, Commissioner Hower and Commissioner Peterson that their term expires in 04'. Mr. Banks stated that the Arbor Day committee has formed again and the first meeting is November 17, 2003 at 12:00. Mr. Banks also talked about the No Net Loss of trees and talked about the trees around the expansion onto Town Hall.

Commissioner Goolsby stated he would write a letter to Target thanking them for the trees that they gave to the Town.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bessa talked about the windstorm that came through last week and stated he noticed 6 trees had falling. There was one big tree in Union Cemetery.

Commissioner Goolsby stated he went to the Lightfoot and noticed they had two pictures comparing that part of Town where the Lightfoot restaurant is located about 100 years apart and the one thing that was really noticeable were the trees that were there and it looked inviting.

COUNCILMANIC COMMENTS:

Councilman Schmidt gave an update on the new Park & Ride lot at Westpark and there will be a meeting on Wednesday from 5 pm to 8pm. There should not be any tree impact but maybe they would plant some if this goes forward. Councilman Schmidt stated there was a minor accident at the airport. Councilman Schmidt asked if the Tree Commission would be attending the next Council meeting about no net loss.

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Ms. Carol Evans stated she also got to go to San Antonio and also report that Urban Forestry has immense support right now. Tree City USA is looking at what the Tree Commission has accomplished.

The Tree Commission decide to use the Power Point presentation for a future Council Meeting, but decided further research was needed to verify the facts.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Perry made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Perry
Second: Goolsby
Carried: 6-0

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Jay S. Banks, Urban Forester